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# **NEWS RELEASE**

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For Immediate Release

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## **Alien Smuggler Convicted of Assault of Federal Officers** *Smuggler attempted to run over agents as he fled*

**San Diego, California** – A man who attempted to run over U.S. Border Patrol agents last year was recently found guilty of fifteen criminal counts, including assaulting federal agents.

Border Patrol agents arrested Isidro Martinez-Peleaz, a Mexican national, on August 11, 2000. Agents became suspicious after noticing a car parked along the side of a rural road at an unusual hour with the lights out and engine running. Six smuggled aliens and their guide were found in the car with Martinez-Peleaz, who attempted to flee. Agents fired their weapons as Martinez-Peleaz attempted to run them over with his vehicle.

Last Tuesday, a jury found Martinez-Peleaz guilty of six counts of alien smuggling for financial gain, six counts of transportation of illegal aliens, one count of aiding an aggravated felon in entering the United States, and two counts of assault on federal agents with a deadly weapon. He will be sentenced at a later date.

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